

Narberth Rural District Council

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

DISTRICT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



1961

N A R B E R T H R U R A L D I S T R I C T

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR

1961

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Mr. Chairmen and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present to you my Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1961.

The health of the district generally has been good. 199 cases of measles and 15 cases of whooping cough were notified but no serious complications were reported.

Water Supply

Our most serious public health problem is still the lack of an adequate water supply. Progress is being made on the scheme to abstract water from the Eastern Cleddau and to construct a new reservoir at Castle Merhen, which would enable the Council to adequately supply water to their own and surrounding districts.

Sewerage Schemes

A number of schemes are being considered and, quite rightly, priority is being given to the Saundersfoot scheme where the need is urgent. Little council house building has been carried out during the year, although the need still exists, particularly in Saundersfoot and for elderly folk, and in addition, there are several problem families living under unsatisfactory conditions.

Again I should like to emphasise how important a part the Public Health Inspector plays in the maintenance of the conditions suitable for healthy living. Much work has been done to implement the recommendations made under the Food and Hygiene regulations and conditions have improved.

I should also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council and its officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation, and to include in this my thanks to my clerk, Mrs. V. K. Hughes, for all her help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,



PHYLLIS M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

District Medical Officer.

The Guildhall,
Tenby.

Tel: Tenby 2589.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate)....1961....
9,940.....

	<u>Marberth</u> <u>R.D.1961</u>	<u>Marberth</u> <u>R.D.1960</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Live Births	129	153		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	12.97	15.33	17.84	17.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	4.65	3.3	4.7	
Still Births	5	2		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	37.31	12.9	24.0	18.7
Total Live and Still Births	134	155		
Infant Deaths	3	3		
Infant Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year)(per 1,000 live births) - total	23.25	19.7	22.08	21.4
- legitimate	24.4	13.5	23.3	
- illegitimate	nil	nil	12.6	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate(deaths under 4 weeks)(per 1,000 Live Births)	7.75	19.7	15.0	15.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week)(per 1,000 Live Births)	7.75	19.7	13.2	
Perinatal Mortality Rate(deaths under 1 week and still births combined)(per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	44.77	32.2	36.9	

The infant mortality rate shows a slight increase this year, there being three deaths of infants under one year of age. One of these deaths was due to prematurity at 4 hours; one to meningitis at 4 months and one to electrolytes disturbances and vomiting at 1 month.

Maternal Deaths	1	nil		
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	7.5	nil	0.58	0.33
Deaths	125	149		
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	12.6	14.9	12.47	12.0

The general death rate shows a decrease this year and at 12.6 per 1,000 population is lower than the rate for the County, although higher than that for the country as a whole.

Heart disease remains as the cause of the highest number of deaths, having accounted for 47 out of the total of 125 deaths. Of the 9 deaths from cancer, 2 were caused by cancer of the lung and both were men who were known to be moderately heavy smokers of cigarettes.

Approximately 62.4% of the total number of deaths occurred in persons aged 70 years and over and of these, 55.12% occurred in persons aged over 80 years.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	70	55
Tuberculosis, respiratory,	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	3	2
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus,	2	-
Malignant neoplasm of breast	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	8
Coronary disease, angina,	18	9
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
Other heart disease	8	11
Other circulatory disease	3	2
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1
Bronchitis	2	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion,	-	1
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide	-	2

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

2	Respiratory Tuberculosis
199	Measles
1	Scarlet Fever
15	Whooping Cough

TUBERCULOSIS

1 death from respiratory tuberculosis occurred during the year and 2 new cases were notified, one of which was admitted to hospital.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts and school leavers continues to be carried out in the district. Clinic sessions are held as required and the schools are also visited. During 1960, 4 contacts and 62 school leavers (i.e. pupils aged thirteen years and over), were vaccinated. The Chest Physician, Dr. D. Llewelyn Davies, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.



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MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service visited Saundersfoot during November this year and carried out a special survey amongst the general population. The results are as follows:-

	<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total No. examined	137	61	76
No. found to be abnormal	16 { 11.68% }	8	8
No. requiring further observation	4 { 2.92% }	3	1
Other abnormalities of the chest	12 { 8.76% }	5	7

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Vaccination Records were received during the year of 90 primary vaccinations and 9 re-vaccinations.

Immunisation Records were received of 131 primary immunisations against diphtheria and 16 re-inforcing injections. Also received were records of 104 immunisations against whooping cough.

Both vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough are carried out at the Clinic and by the local practitioners, who are paid by the County Council for records received by your Medical Officer.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

During the early part of the year, the fourth injection was given to school children between the ages of 5 and 12 years. As the use of oral vaccine proved so satisfactory in the Hull epidemic, the Ministry of Health reduced and finally stopped supplying the Salk vaccine to Local Authorities while further work was being carried out on oral vaccine for general use.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.

